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COMPOSITAE NEWSLETTER

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NUMBER ONE

Considering the profusion of journals and bulletins flooding everyone's laboratory these days, the thought of introducing an additional newsletter is almost too much to bear. Nonetheless, it does seem proper that the numerous systematists working on the large and biologically important family, the Compositae, should have a formal outlet for exchange of information among themselves. It is with this motivation that we offer this first number of the Compositae Newsletter.

We have no particular aspirations for this little bulletin, nor do we feel compelled to publish it at regular intervals. Rather, whenever sufficient information is received to merit costs of duplication and mailing, the Newsletter will be printed and distributed.

We neither encourage nor discourage the submission of any particular type of information; whatever is sent to us will be included with only a minimum amount of editing. The editorial policy, therefore, will be essentially one of non-review. We hope that published items of interest will provoke both positive and/or negative responses from fellow synantherologists, which may result in lively and beneficial discussion not available in most journals.

For purposes of organization, we have chosen seven subheadings for the Newsletter which we believe will accommodate most of the information sent to us. These categories are: (1) Editorials; (2) Points of View; (3) Articles; (4) Book Reviews; (5) Meetings and Other Timely Events; (6) News from Individuals and Institutions; and (7) Requests for Material.

We hope this first number of the Newsletter will reach the majority of workers in the Compositae. Because no mailing list of this sort is ever complete, we would appreciate receiving the names and addresses of people who did not receive the first issue but who would like to receive subsequent ones. Hopefully, at some later date the mailing list can be published along with additional information about each of the workers.

The costs of typing, reproduction, and mailing are for the present being borne by the Departments of Botany of The Ohio State University and the Smithsonian Institution. We wish to acknowledge with thanks the financial and moral support of these institutions and their chairmen.

Meetings and Other Timely Events

It may seem unnecessary to include here a mention of the international symposium on The Biology and Chemistry of the Compositae to be held in Reading, England, 14-18 July. On the chance that some the recipients of the Newsletter are not aware of this meeting, however, a brief description follows.

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The symposium is sponsored by the Linnaean Society of London and the Phytochemical Society. Thirty-six invited participants will present papers on the basic systematics and chemistry of each tribe and on additional topics such as fossil history, evolution of capitula, palynology, cytology, developmental anatomy, etc. The presented papers will be published in book form similar to the volume on The Biology and Chemistry of the Umbelliferae [V. H. Heywood (ed.), 1971, Academic Press]. Further information about the symposium may be obtained from: Mrs. Abigail Gillett, Department of Botany, Plant Science Laboratories, The University, Whiteknights, Reading RG6 2AS, England.

Highlights of the meeting will appear in the next issue of the Newsletter.